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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/706,599	11/11/2003	George Jackowski	2132.135	5792
21917	7590	02/24/2006	EXAMINER	
MCHALE & SLAVIN, P.A. 2855 PGA BLVD PALM BEACH GARDENS, FL 33410			CHEU, CHANGHWA J	
		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
		1641		

DATE MAILED: 02/24/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/706,599	JACKOWSKI ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Jacob Cheu	1641

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 June 2004.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Deposit

1. With respect to claims 3-5, it is apparent that the 3F4, 5F4 and 6G4 antibodies are required to practice the claimed invention.

As a required element, it must be known and readily available to the public or obtainable by a repeatable method set forth in the specification. If it is not so obtainable or available, the enablement requirements of 35 USC 112, first paragraph, may be satisfied by a deposit of the cell line / hybridoma which produces this antibody. See 37 CFR 1.801-1.809.

In addition to the conditions under the Budapest Treaty, applicant is required to satisfy that all restrictions imposed by the depositor on the availability to the public of the deposited material will be irrevocably removed upon the granting of a patent in U.S. patent applications.

Amendment of the specification to recite the date of deposit and the complete name and address of the depository is required. As an additional means for completing the record, applicant may submit a copy of the contract with the depository for deposit and maintenance of each deposit.

NOTE THE CURRENT ATCC DEPOSITORY ADDRESS

American Type Culture Collection, 10801 University Boulevard, Manassas, VA 20110-2209

Applicant is reminded that the following and should amend the specification accordingly.

The current address of the ATCC is as follows:

American Type Culture Collection, 10801 University Boulevard, Manassas, VA 20110-2209

If the original deposit is made after the effective filing date of an application for patent, the applicant should promptly submit a verified statement from a person in a position to corroborate the fact, and should state, that the biological material which is deposited is a biological material

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specifically identified in the application as filed, except if the person is an attorney or agent registered to practice before the Office, in which the case the statement need not be verified. See MPEP 1.804(b).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claim 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

With respect to claim 1, step (b), the language wording “detecting said antibody-antigen binding complex wherein the presence of said antibody-antigen binding complex is diagnostic for congestive heart failure” is not clear. Merely “presence” alone is not indicative because the specification demonstrates that the healthy ones also has certain levels, albeit lower than congestive heart failure ones, of the complex in the range of 0.35 to 0.45 absorbance ratio. Applicant needs to clarify.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

3. Claim 1-2, 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Goldman et al. (Modern Pathology 2001, Vol. 14, page 589-594).

Goldman et al. teach a pathological analysis of examining of myocardial infarction patients. Goldman et al. determine various biological markers from the patients' plasma sample, including glyophorin A antigen (See Abstract; page 589, right column, last paragraph). Goldman et al. discover that the patients have symptoms of erythropoiesis confirmed by immuostaining with antibody to glycophorin (See Figure 1, H). However, Glodman et al. do not explicitly teach measuring the complex of glycophorin-antibodies as an indicator for diagnostic of congestive heart failure.

Nevertheless, Goldman et al. discuss the correlation of the congestive heart failure with the myocardial infarction (page 589, right column, first paragraph). Also Goldman et al. report the correlation of congestive heart failure with the erythropoiesis (See page 589, right column, first paragraph).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have motivated Goldman et al. to further determine the correlation between congestive heart failure with the level of glycophorin in the suspected patients with reasonable expectation of success because it is known that the glycophorin antigen

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can be detected in erythropoiesis, and a potential relationship between congestive heart failure and erythropoiesis has been established.

4. Claim 7-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Goldman et al. in view of Mak et al. (US 6190691).

Goldman et al. reference has been discussed but does not explicitly teach using a second antibody attached with a label to detect the complex of the glycophorin-antibody.

Mak et al. teach modified ELISA using a labeled second antibody recognizing a first antigen-antibody complex to increase detection sensitivity and specificity (Col. 16, line 32-50).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have provided Goldman et al. with a labeled second polyclonal antibody specific for the antigen-antibody complex as taught by Mak et al. in order to increase sensitivity and specificity because such technique is well-known and widely practiced in the art.

With respect to claim 8-9, Mak et al. teach labeling the second antibody with peroxidase as the signal generating substance (Col. 16, line 45-50).

Conclusion

5. No claim is allowed.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jacob Cheu whose telephone number is 571-272-0814. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00-5:00.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Long Le can be reached on 571-272-0823. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Jacob Cheu
Examiner



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February 9, 2006

LONG V. LE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1600

02/16/06